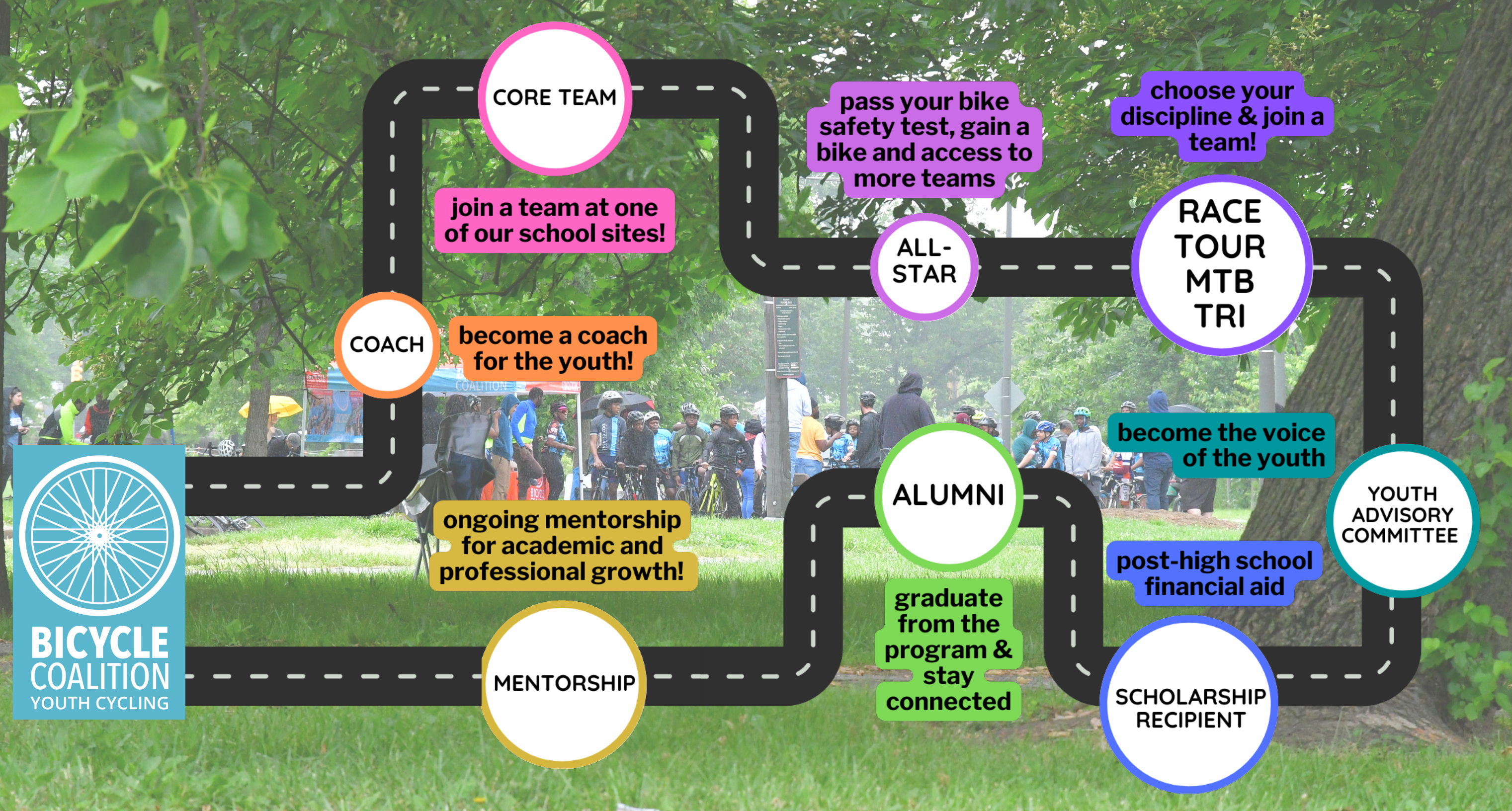


bicycle coalition



youth cycling



Hey dear reader!

I joined Bicycle Coalition Youth Cycling (BCYC) through my school, Mastery Charter Pickett Campus, in 2016. I can't tell you what motivated me to join the team, I just remember being excited to causally ride around my Germantown neighborhood with my childhood friends.

In the beginning it was a struggle for me to keep up with the fast-paced riding, I'm still not a fast rider, but I quickly learned to appreciate taking my time and enjoying the views. I was determined to keep going and remain dedicated.

And because of that dedication I was able to move up in the program. I became a leader, the voice of the program from the youth perspective. I didn't stop there either, I graduated from the program in 2018 as the Athlete of the Year and received a \$10,000 scholarship based solely on merit.

As someone who has been through every aspect of this program, I can confidently say that this isn't just a program where kids ride bikes. **Here at BCYC we are dedicated to creating athletes and future leaders through cycling.** The athletes gain a well-rounded introduction into the cycling community while also gaining many of their first core experiences with the opportunity to try again and expand upon skills they never knew they had.

Now, if you don't believe me, keep reading on to find more firsthand representations of who we are and what we do. And prepare to be blown away by our reach and impact.

Mya Miller, BCYC Class of 2018

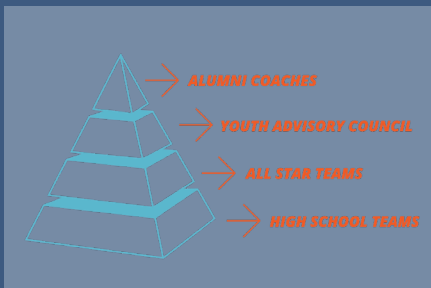
program overview

The Bicycle Coalition Youth Cycling program works with youth ages 12-18 across Philadelphia in **building healthy habits, leadership and independence through the sport of cycling.**

Part of the Bicycle Coalition's education department, BCYC builds entry-level to advanced competitive cycling skills with its teams through the progressive program tiers, but it does not stop there.

BCYC embraces pillars of **positive youth development through sport to inspire and nurture the growth of the whole athlete:** emotional wellbeing, academic success, civic participation, career planning and more.

The leadership ladder is key to this holistic youth development. Beginning by entering a core team at one of our partner sites, youth graduate through a series of programs and achieve increasing levels of accomplishment and responsibility, the highest of which is the Youth Advisory Committee (YAC).



The YAC is a group of youth leaders who drive the direction of the program and participate in local and national organizing toward their vision of safe streets and equitable access to the sport they love: cycling.

125+
youth athletes
ride each year

25 total BCYC
scholarships
awarded

10-12 school cycling teams



Victoria Williams
BCYC Class of 2022

BCYC has impacted my life in an ongoing way, first off by providing me with the **financial support** to continue my education. Through BCYC, I've been given a **mentor** who has been so helpful during college. **During high school, BCYC showed me the true definition of community.** When all the schools would come together for events, even though most of us were meeting for the first time, it was like we'd always known each other.



Daa'mir Speight Taylor
BCYC Class of 2023

I am very happy and honored to be put in this position to share how cycling helped me grow as a person, how it influences my life, and my work as an artist. It may come as a surprise, but I have struggled with mental health issues. Through writing this, I realized how important cycling became to me, and how its influence bled into my other passions. The **experiences and challenges that I've gone through in cycling show up in my art, my striving to pursue a career in education, and my drive to continue on** even when I feel as though I can't anymore in school and work.

While cycling didn't magically cure my mental health issues, **cycling came at a pivotal moment in my life**, when art wasn't really helping me cope with some of the challenges I was going through. I can't even put into words everything cycling did for me, "It just did the thing."

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SILVER \$5K
BRONZE \$2.5K

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Dedicated to our
scholarship program to
set youth athletes onto
college and careers

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Contact the BCYC Program Team at 215-419-5291



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